

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN EB-07

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DRAFTED BY EB/ICD/TRP:TJO'DONNELL:MH

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AF/EPS:RLOMBARDI

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 254279

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: MEETING OF INTERAFRICAN COFFEE ORGANIZATION

REF: (A) DAR ES SALAAM 3790; (B) LONDON 11890

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES INFO REF A. AS REPORTED REF B, AT SEPTEMBER MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL COFFEE COUNCIL, IACO TOOK INITIATIVE AMONG THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN PROPOSING AN EARLY START ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR A NEW AGREEMENT. ORIGINAL IACO PROPOSAL THIS COUNCIL SESSION CALLED FOR PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS TO START IN FALL 1974 AND FORMAL AGREEMENT TO BE REACHED BY MAY 1975. HOWEVER, AFTER PROLONGED CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER PRODUCERS, THEIR TIMING WAS MODIFIED, AND THEY PROPOSED STARTING NEGOTIATIONS IN JANUARY 1975 AND CONCLUDE IN JUNE/JULY 1975. THE U.S. DELEGATION HAD INDICATED INFORMALLY TO IACO SPOKESMAN (SAWADOGO AND N'DIA OF IVORY COAST) THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER SCHEDULE THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES PREFERRED.

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2. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW IACO MEMBERS VIEW PROSPECTS FOR A NEW AGREEMENT AND WHAT MAJOR OBSTACLES THEY SEE AHEAD. WITHOUT RAISING THE QUESTION DIRECTLY, WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN THEIR ASSESSMENT OF BRAZILIAN AND OTHER LATIN AMERICAN PRODUCERS' INTENTIONS. A THIRD AREA OF INTEREST IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH AFRICAN PRODUCERS

ARE COOPERATING WITH THE PRODUCERS ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD TO STABILIZE PRICES THROUGH RETENTION OF COFFEE.

3. PLEASE INFO LONDON ON RESPONSE. INGERSOLL

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